

Forest Order STF-2014-05
Temporary Fire Restrictions
High Fire Hazard Area
Stanislaus National Forest

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to provide for public safety and protect natural resources, the following acts are prohibited within the High Fire Hazard Area of the Stanislaus National Forest, as shown on Exhibit A and described in Exhibit B. This Order is effective from July 23, 2014 through the end of the official 2014 fire season.

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, except in the Developed Recreation Sites listed in Exhibit C. 36 CFR 261.52(a).
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, within a Developed Recreation Site listed in Exhibit C, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material. 36 CFR 261.52(d).
3. Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame. 36 CFR 261.52(i).
4. Using an explosive. 36 CFR 261.52(b).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Persons with a valid California Campfire Permit are not exempt from the prohibitions listed above. However, persons with a valid California Campfire Permit may use a portable stove or lantern using gas, jellied petroleum, or pressurized liquid fuel on National Forest System lands within the High Hazard Area.
3. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
4. Persons with a Special Use Permit from the Forest Service for a recreation residence on National Forest System lands within the High Hazard Area are not exempt from the prohibitions listed above. However, persons with a Special Use Permit from the Forest Service for a recreation residence on National Forest System lands within the High Hazard Area may use a campfire or stove fire at their recreation residence.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for an individual or \$10,000.00 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.
16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571 and 3581.

Done at Sonoma California, this 22nd day of July, 2014.



SUSAN SKALSKI
Forest Supervisor
Stanislaus National Forest



File Code: 1950

Date: July 22, 2014

Route To:

Subject: Temporary Fire Restrictions in the High Fire Hazard Area

To: Project File

From: Susan Skalski, Forest Supervisor 

The High Fire Hazard Area of the Stanislaus National Forest is located in Calaveras, Mariposa and Tuolumne Counties, California. The Forest's Fire Management Plan (Appendix A, Wildland Fire Management Program Implementation) and Forest Service Manual (FSM) 5110.4 provide authority and guidance on implementing actions that reduce the risk of certain ignition sources during periods of high fire risk.

Criteria for activating prohibitions in the High Fire Hazard Area through a forest order is based on National Fire Danger Rating System indices and fuel moisture conditions. The Forest currently meets the criteria for activation of restrictions in the High Fire Hazard Area using the Mt. Elizabeth weather station as the representative site. Indices that can trigger restrictions are: Burning Index is 60 or greater for three consecutive days with a predicted stable or upward trend; dead fuel moistures for thousand-hour time lag fuels are less than 14%; and Energy Release Component greater than 70. Current conditions reflect a Burning Index of 66 trending upward and in the past month was ranging in the high 80s and low 90s. Calculated thousand-hour fuel moisture is 8% with an Energy Release Component of 70 but trending upwards and in recent weeks has been above 84 for multiple, consecutive days. Combinations of the data that are above threshold indicate a need for restricting potential fire-causing activities of persons using the High Fire Hazard Area.

In response to the situation described above, the Forest Service will issue a temporary Forest Order prohibiting the following activities in the High Fire Hazard Area:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire, except in the Developed Recreation Sites listed in Exhibit C. 36 CFR 261.52(a).
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, within a Developed Recreation Site listed in Exhibit C, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material. 36 CFR 261.52(d).
3. Welding, or operating an acetylene or other torch with an open flame. 36 CFR 261.52(i).
4. Using an explosive. 36 CFR 261.52(b).

Scoping determined that anticipated effects of this proposed action would be administrative in



nature. Minimal ground disturbance will occur, and no other additional impact on any natural resources will occur with the implementation of this proposed action. The public notification of these restrictions occurred via a press announcement published by the local newspapers.

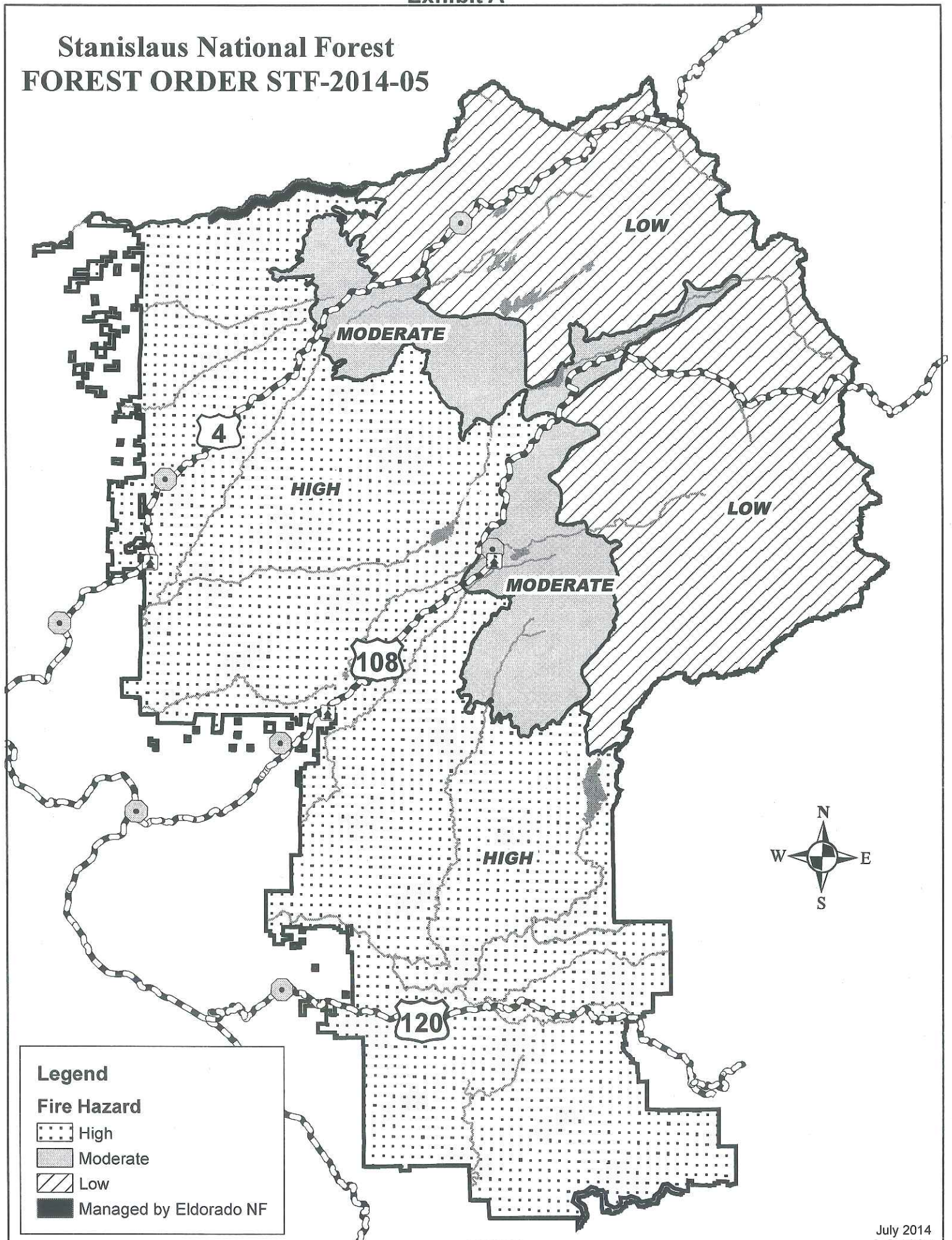
The Forest Service will install signs along roads entering the High Fire Hazard Area to alert the public to these fire restrictions.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 CFR 220.6(d)(1) – prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety – and does not require documentation in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.

For further information regarding this decision, contact: Chris Schow, Fire Management Officer, Stanislaus National Forest, 19777 Greenley Road, Sonora, CA. (209) 532-3671.

cc: Heidi Rieck, Chris Schow

Stanislaus National Forest FOREST ORDER STF-2014-05



Forest Order STF-2014-05
Temporary Fire Restrictions
High Fire Hazard Area
Stanislaus National Forest
Exhibit B

The boundary of the High Fire Hazard Area begins at a point on the west boundary of the Mokelumne Wilderness .5 miles south of the east end of Salt Spring Reservoir, then continues south and east along the boundary of the Mokelumne Wilderness Area to the section line between Sections 4 and 5, T7N R17E, then continues due southwest across the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 5 and the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 8, T7N R17E, to its intersection with Forest Road No. 7N16, then continues west along Forest Road No. 7N16 to its intersection with Forest Road No. 7N09, then continues west and south along Forest Road No. 7N09 to Forest Road No. 7N23, then continues south along Forest Road No. 7N23 to its intersection with Highway 4, then continues due east across Highway 4 to the North Fork of the Stanislaus River in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 14, T6N R17E, then continues south along the North Fork of the Stanislaus River to Big Rattlesnake Creek, then continues east along Big Rattlesnake Creek to Forest Road No. 6N17, then continues south along Forest Road No. 6N17 to Forest Road No. 5N14, then continues east along Forest Road No. 5N14 to Forest Road No. 5N18, then continues south along Forest Road No. 5N18 to Forest Road No. 6N05, then continues north along Forest Road No. 6N05 to Shoofly Creek, then continues east along Shoofly Creek to the Middle Fork of the Stanislaus River, then continues northeast along the Middle Fork of the Stanislaus River to the south end of the dam of Donnell Lake, then continues south along the section line between Section 35 and 36, T6N R18E, to Mill Creek, then continues east along Mill Creek to Highway 108, then continues west along Highway 108 to the boundary of the Summit and Mi-Wok Districts, then continues east along the boundary of the boundary of Summit and Mi-Wok Districts to Forest Road No. 4N33, then continues south along Forest Road No. 4N33 to Forest Road No. 3N01, then continues east along Forest Road No. 3N01 to the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section of 31, T3N R19E, then continues due northeast to Hells Mountain in Section 32, T3N R19E, then continues south along the boundary of the Emigrant Wilderness to the boundary of Yosemite National Park, then continues south along the boundary of Yosemite National Park and Stanislaus National Forest to the boundary of the Sierra and Stanislaus National Forests, then continues west, north and east along the boundary of the Stanislaus National Forest to the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10, T7N R15E, then continues due south .5 miles , then continues northeast paralleling the southern edge of Salt Springs Reservoir at a distance of .5 miles for 4.2 miles to its intersection with the Mokelumne Wilderness boundary, then continues .5 miles north along the Mokelumne Wilderness boundary back to the starting point, as shown on the attached map.

**Forest Order STF-2014-05
Temporary Fire Restrictions
High Fire Hazard Area
Stanislaus National Forest
Exhibit C**

Calaveras Ranger District

1. Boards Crossing Campground
2. Waka Luu Hep Yoo Campground
3. Sourgrass Day Use Area

Mi-Wok Ranger District

1. Fraser Flat Campground
2. River Ranch Campground
3. Riverside Picnic Area
4. Sand Bar Flat Campground
5. North Fork Day Use Area

Summit Ranger District

1. Cascade Campground
2. Beardsley Lake Day-Use Area
3. North Beardsley Campground

Groveland Ranger District

1. Lower Carlon Day-Use Area
2. Dimond O Campground
3. Lost Claim Campground
4. Lumsden Bridge Campground
5. Lumsden Campground
6. Rainbow Pool Day-Use Area
7. The Pines Campground
8. Peach Growers Tract